

Calendar No. 546

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 2232****[Report No. 105–307]**

To establish the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site
in the State of Arkansas, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 25, 1998

Mr. BUMPERS (for himself and Mr. HUTCHINSON) introduced the following
bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and
Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 8 (legislative day, AUGUST 31), 1998

Reported by Mr. MURKOWSKI, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To establish the Little Rock Central High School National
Historic Site in the State of Arkansas, and for other
purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

4 ~~(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—~~

1 (1) the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision of
2 Brown v. Board of Education, which mandated an
3 end to the segregation of public schools, was one of
4 the most significant Court decisions in the history of
5 the United States;

6 (2) the admission of nine African-American stu-
7 dents, known as the “Little Rock Nine”, to Little
8 Rock’s Central High School as a result of the Brown
9 decision, was the most prominent national example
10 of the implementation of the Brown decision, and
11 served as a catalyst for the integration of other, pre-
12 viously segregated public schools in the United
13 States;

14 (3) 1997 marked the 70th anniversary of the
15 construction of Central High School, which has been
16 named by the American Institute of Architects as
17 “the most beautiful high school building in Amer-
18 ica”;

19 (4) Central High School was included on the
20 National Register of Historic Places in 1977 and
21 designated by the Secretary of the Interior as a Na-
22 tional Historic Landmark in 1982 in recognition of
23 its national significance in the development of the
24 Civil Rights movement in the United States; and

1 (5) the designation of Little Rock Central High
2 School as a unit of the National Park System will
3 recognize the significant role the school played in the
4 desegregation of public schools in the South and will
5 interpret for future generations the events associated
6 with early desegregation of southern schools.

7 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to pre-
8 serve, protect, and interpret for the benefit, education, and
9 inspiration of present and future generations, Central
10 High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and its role in the
11 integration of public schools and the development of the
12 Civil Rights movement in the United States.

13 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL NA-**
14 **TIONAL HISTORIC SITE.**

15 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Little Rock Central High
16 School National Historic Site in the State of Arkansas
17 (hereinafter referred to as the “historic site”) is hereby
18 established as a unit of the National Park System. The
19 historic site shall consist of lands and interests therein
20 comprising the Central High School campus in Little
21 Rock, Arkansas, as generally depicted on a map entitled
22 _____ and dated June, 1998. Such map shall be
23 on file and available for public inspection in the appro-
24 priate offices of the National Park Service.

1 (b) ~~ADMINISTRATION OF HISTORIC SITE.~~—The Sec-
 2 retary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Sec-
 3 retary”) shall administer the historic site in accordance
 4 with this Act and the laws generally applicable to units
 5 of the National Park System, including the Act of August
 6 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 1, 2–4) and the Act of August 21,
 7 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461–467); *Provided*, That nothing in this
 8 Act shall affect the authority of the Little Rock School
 9 District to administer Little Rock Central High School.

10 (c) ~~COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.~~—(1) The Secretary
 11 may enter into cooperative agreements with appropriate
 12 public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions
 13 (including, but not limited to, the State of Arkansas, the
 14 City of Little Rock, the Little Rock School District, Cen-
 15 tral High Museum, Inc., Central High Neighborhood, Inc.,
 16 or the University of Arkansas) in furtherance of the pur-
 17 poses of this Act.

18 (2) The Secretary shall coordinate visitor interpreta-
 19 tion of the historic site with the Little Rock School Dis-
 20 trict and the Central High School Museum, Inc.

21 (d) ~~GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.~~—Within two
 22 years after the date funds are made available, the Sec-
 23 retary shall prepare a general management plan for the
 24 historic site.

1 (e) CONTINUING EDUCATIONAL USE.—The Sec-
 2 retary shall consult and coordinate with the Little Rock
 3 School District in the development of the general manage-
 4 ment plan and in the administration of the historic site
 5 so as to not interfere with the continuing use of General
 6 High School as an educational institution.

7 (f) ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.—The Secretary is
 8 authorized to acquire by purchase with donated or appro-
 9 priated funds, by exchange, or donation the lands and in-
 10 terests therein located within the boundaries of the his-
 11 toric site: *Provided*, That the Secretary may only acquire
 12 lands or interests therein within the consent of the owner
 13 thereof: *Provided further*, That lands or interests therein
 14 owned by the State of Arkansas or a political subdivision
 15 thereof, may only be acquired by donation or exchange.

16 **SEC. 3. DESEGREGATION IN PUBLIC EDUCATION THEME**
 17 **STUDY.**

18 (a) THEME STUDY.—Within two years after the date
 19 funds are made available, the Secretary shall prepare and
 20 transmit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
 21 sources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources
 22 of the House of Representatives a National Historic Land-
 23 mark Theme Study (hereinafter referred to as the “theme
 24 study”) on the history of desegregation in public edu-
 25 cation. The purpose of the theme study shall be to identify

1 sites, districts, buildings, structures, and landscapes that
 2 best illustrate or commemorate key events or decisions in
 3 the historical movement to provide for racial desegregation
 4 in public education. On the basis of the theme study, the
 5 Secretary shall identify possible new national historic
 6 landmarks appropriate to this theme and prepare a list
 7 in order of importance or merit of the most appropriate
 8 sites for national historic landmark designation.

9 (b) OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION AND RE-
 10 SEARCH.—The theme study shall identify appropriate
 11 means to establish linkages between sites identified in sub-
 12 section (a) and between those sites and the Central High
 13 School National Historic Site established in section 2, and
 14 with other existing units of the National Park System to
 15 maximize opportunities for public education and scholarly
 16 research on desegregation in public education. The theme
 17 study also shall recommend opportunities for cooperative
 18 arrangements with State and local governments, edu-
 19 cational institutions, local historical organizations, and
 20 other appropriate entities to preserve and interpret key
 21 sites in the history of desegregation in public education.

22 (c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary
 23 may enter into cooperative agreements with one or more
 24 major educational institutions, public history organiza-
 25 tions, or civil rights organizations knowledgeable about de-

1 segregation in public education to prepare the theme study
 2 and to ensure that the theme study meets scholarly stand-
 3 ards.

4 (d) ~~THEME STUDY COORDINATION WITH GENERAL~~
 5 ~~MANAGEMENT PLAN.~~—The theme study shall be prepared
 6 as part of the preparation and development of the general
 7 management plan for the Little Rock Central High School
 8 National Historic Site established in section 2.

9 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

10 There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as
 11 may be necessary to carry out this Act.

12 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

13 (a) *FINDINGS.*—*The Congress finds that—*

14 (1) *the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision of*
 15 *Brown v. Board of Education, which mandated an*
 16 *end to the segregation of public schools, was one of the*
 17 *most significant Court decisions in the history of the*
 18 *United States.*

19 (2) *the admission of nine African-American stu-*
 20 *dents, known as the “Little Rock Nine”, to Little*
 21 *Rock’s Central High School as a result of the Brown*
 22 *decision, was the most prominent national example of*
 23 *the implementation of the Brown decision, and served*
 24 *as a catalyst for the integration of other, previously*
 25 *segregated public schools in the United States;*

1 (3) 1997 marked the 70th anniversary of the con-
 2 struction of Central High School, which has been
 3 named by the American Institute of Architects as “the
 4 most beautiful high school building in America”;

5 (4) Central High School was included on the Na-
 6 tional Register of Historic Places in 1977 and des-
 7 ignated by the Secretary of the Interior as a National
 8 Historic Landmark in 1982 in recognition of its na-
 9 tional significance in the development of the Civil
 10 Rights movement in the United States; and

11 (5) the designation of Little Rock Central High
 12 School as a unit of the National Park System will
 13 recognize the significant role the school played in the
 14 desegregation of public schools in the South and will
 15 interpret for future generations the events associated
 16 with early desegregation of southern schools;

17 (b) *PURPOSE.*—The purpose of this Act is to preserve,
 18 protect, and interpret for the benefit, education, and inspi-
 19 ration of present and future generations, Central High
 20 School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and its role in the integra-
 21 tion of public schools and the development of the Civil
 22 Rights movement in the United States.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL NA-**
 2 **TIONAL HISTORIC SITE.**

3 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—*The Little Rock Central High*
 4 *School National Historic Site in the State of Arkansas*
 5 *(hereinafter referred to as the “historic site”) is hereby es-*
 6 *tablished as a unit of the National Park System. The his-*
 7 *toric site shall consist of lands and interests therein com-*
 8 *prising the Central High School campus and adjacent prop-*
 9 *erties in Little Rock, Arkansas, as generally depicted on a*
 10 *map entitled “Proposed Little Rock Central High School*
 11 *National Historic Site”, numbered LIRO–20,000 and dated*
 12 *July, 1998. Such map shall be on file and available for*
 13 *public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National*
 14 *Park Service.*

15 (b) *ADMINISTRATION OF HISTORIC SITE.*—*The Sec-*
 16 *retary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the “Sec-*
 17 *retary”) shall administer the historic site in accordance*
 18 *with this Act. Only those lands under the direct jurisdiction*
 19 *of the Secretary shall be administered in accordance with*
 20 *the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the*
 21 *National Park System including the Act of August 25, 1916*
 22 *(16 U.S.C. 1, 2–4) and the Act of August 21, 1935 (16*
 23 *U.S.C. 461–467). Nothing in this Act shall affect the au-*
 24 *thority of the Little Rock School District to administer Lit-*
 25 *tle Rock Central High School nor shall this Act affect the*

1 *authorities of the City of Little Rock in the neighborhood*
2 *surrounding the school.*

3 (c) *COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.*—(1) *The Secretary*
4 *may enter into cooperative agreements with appropriate*
5 *public and private agencies, organizations, and institutions*
6 *(including, but not limited to, the State of Arkansas, the*
7 *City of Little Rock, the Little Rock School District, Central*
8 *High Museum, Inc., Central High Neighborhood, Inc., or*
9 *the University of Arkansas) in furtherance of the purposes*
10 *of this Act.*

11 (2) *The Secretary shall coordinate visitor interpreta-*
12 *tion of the historic site with the Little Rock School District*
13 *and the Central High School Museum, Inc.*

14 (d) *GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.*—*Within three*
15 *years after the date funds are made available, the Secretary*
16 *shall prepare a general management plan for the historic*
17 *site. The plan shall be prepared in consultation and coordi-*
18 *nation with the Little Rock School District, the City of Lit-*
19 *tle Rock, Central High Museum, Inc., and with other appro-*
20 *priate organizations and agencies. The plan shall identify*
21 *specific roles and responsibilities for the National Park*
22 *Service in administering the historic site, and shall identify*
23 *lands or property, if any, that might be necessary for the*
24 *National Park Service to acquire in order to carry out its*
25 *responsibilities. The plan shall also identify the roles and*

1 responsibilities of other entities in administering the his-
 2 toric site and its programs. The plan shall include a man-
 3 agement framework that ensures the administration of the
 4 historic site does not interfere with the continuing use of
 5 Central High School as an educational institution.

6 (e) *ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.*—The Secretary is au-
 7 thorized to acquire by purchase with donated or appro-
 8 priated funds by exchange, or donation the lands and inter-
 9 ested therein located within the boundaries of the historic
 10 site: Provided, That the Secretary may only acquire lands
 11 or interests therein within the consent of the owner thereof;
 12 Provided further, That lands or interests therein owned by
 13 the State of Arkansas or a political subdivision thereof, may
 14 only be acquired by donation or exchange.

15 **SEC. 3. DESEGREGATION IN PUBLIC EDUCATION THEME**
 16 **STUDY.**

17 (a) *THEME STUDY.*—Within two years after the date
 18 funds are made available, the Secretary shall prepare and
 19 transmit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
 20 sources of the Senate and the Committee on Resources of
 21 the House of Representatives a National Historic Land-
 22 mark Theme Study (hereinafter referred to as the “theme
 23 study”) on the history of desegregation in public education.
 24 The purpose of the theme study shall be to identify sites,
 25 districts, buildings, structures, and landscapes that best il-

1 *lustrate or commemorate key events or decisions in the his-*
 2 *torical movement to provide for racial desegregation in pub-*
 3 *lic education. On the basis of the theme study, the Secretary*
 4 *shall identify possible new national historic landmarks ap-*
 5 *propriate to this theme and prepare a list in order of im-*
 6 *portance or merit of the most appropriate sites for national*
 7 *historic landmark designation.*

8 (b) *OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION AND RE-*
 9 *SEARCH.—The theme study shall identify appropriate*
 10 *means to establish linkages between sites identified in sub-*
 11 *section (a) and between those sites and the Central High*
 12 *School National Historic Site established in section 2, and*
 13 *with other existing units of the National Park System to*
 14 *maximize opportunities for public education and scholarly*
 15 *research on desegregation in public education. The theme*
 16 *study also shall recommend opportunities for cooperative*
 17 *arrangements with State and local governments, edu-*
 18 *cational institutions, local historical organizations, and*
 19 *other appropriate entities to preserve and interpret key sites*
 20 *in the history of desegregation in public education.*

21 (c) *COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may*
 22 *enter into cooperative agreements with one or more edu-*
 23 *cational institutions, public history organizations, or civil*
 24 *rights organizations knowledgeable about desegregation in*

1 *public education to prepare the theme study and to ensure*
2 *that the theme study meets scholarly standards.*

3 (d) *THEME STUDY COORDINATION WITH GENERAL*
4 *MANAGEMENT PLAN.—The theme study shall be prepared*
5 *as part of the preparation and development of the general*
6 *management plan for the Little Rock Central High School*
7 *National Historic Site established in section 2.*

8 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9 *There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as*
10 *may be necessary to carry out this Act.*

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